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Sen. Stamas introduces legislation to expand 55th circuit

LANSING – State Sen. Tony Stamas, R-Midland, introduced legislation in the Senate today to increase judgeships in Clare and Gladwin counties.

“The 55th Circuit Court’s caseload has increased significantly and it is only fair to the residents that there is another judge to hear cases,” Stamas said. “By adding a new judge position the residents in Clare and Gladwin counties will be better served.”

The 55th Circuit Court currently has only one judge.

Previously the Senate passed HB 5480 amending the Revised Judicature Act authorizing the creation of an additional judgeship for the 55th Circuit Court – Clare and Gladwin counties.

Unfortunately the governor vetoed the bill denying the residents in Clare and Gladwin counties the right to have their cases heard as quickly as possible.

Similar to HB 5480, the Stamas legislation would add an additional circuit court judge in the 55th Circuit, as recommended by the independent, nonpartisan Michigan Supreme Court’s State Court Administrative Office.

“I am hopeful that this time, when this important piece of legislation reaches the governor’s desk, she will have no hesitation about signing it into law,” Stamas said.

SB 955 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary for consideration.

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